

A (Amended)
fiber optic cable is formed of a hard material. Cutting through the hard optical fiber dulls the blade of the cutting tool prematurely.--

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A hand-held cutting tool for cutting a fiber optic cable having an optical fiber surrounded by at least one protective layer comprising:

A2
a first cutting member and a second cutting member, said first cutting member being pivotably attached to said second cutting member to allow for pivotable movement of the cutting members between an opened position and a closed position, said first cutting member having an inner face which faces toward said second cutting member and an outer face which faces away from said second cutting member, and said second cutting member having an inner face which faces toward said first cutting member and an outer face which faces away from said first cutting member;

said first cutting member including a cutting edge which has a blunt surface and a sharp surface, said second cutting member including a cutting edge which has a blunt surface and a sharp surface, said sharp surfaces being disposed at a first angle relative to the respective inner faces and said blunt surfaces being disposed at a second angle relative to the respective inner faces, the first angle being smaller than the second angle.

Please cancel claim 6.